

NOVEMBER 1992

# *Point three*

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The magazine of





## Point three

the magazine of  **TOC H**

Toc H is a movement of people who seek to build friendships, and offer service, across the barriers that usually divide us from one another. The basic unit is a group - at best a good cross-section of the local neighbourhood - which meets together regularly, and seeks to serve the community around it. Toc H was founded in 1915 by the Revd P B 'Tubby' Clayton, and since then has been providing opportunities for people to test the Christian way by practical experiment.

All members pledge themselves to try:

1. To welcome all in friendship and lessen by habit of thought, word and deed the prejudices which separate people.
2. To give personal service.
3. To find their own convictions while listening with respect to the views of others.
4. To acknowledge the spiritual nature of man and to test the Christian way by trying it.

This magazine is a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world as well as a record of Toc H service. Its title derives from the third of these Four Points.

## Choosing Toc H

It is sad that so many charities have to compete in the market place nowadays. But it is inevitable, because they are in the business of selling human need. The most effective way of doing this is to appeal to peoples' emotions, with the result that the most successful advertising for human need finally takes the form of emotional blackmail. That is the power and the problem of the media and, while reportage is not analogous to the appeals a charity makes, both make coercive play with our emotions. Both become forms of emotional blackmail, and it becomes increasingly necessary to distinguish the differences. We see images of death on television - on news programmes almost daily - and live coverage of the agony of famine victims is almost commonplace and unbearable.

Perhaps the starting point of modern photojournalism was the Vietnam war picture of a screaming child running down the road with her back a blaze of napalm fire. The photo was relayed across the entire world and may well have helped to end the war. It was intended to shock and shame and was extremely effective. Any death before its time, particularly when one is witness to the agony and suffering involved, is devastating. We should always register shock, sympathy, compassion. But overexposure causes people to disconnect, to desensitise for self-protection. We do not want these threats to our security, so we fit them into a passive part of our brain in order to cope with them.

The problem for charities, which rely on tapping sensitivity, sympathy and compassion, is that these feelings need to be channelled for practical use in helping to alleviate suffering. Charities therefore come

up with increasingly dramatic ways of engaging our emotions. I was recently sent a small sachet of Dioralyte - replacement blood tissue salts - through the post, with the graphic message that it was worth only a few pence and would save a life. I felt guilty and upset and sent the package back with a cheque. But does that successful outcome make the intrusion justifiable?

It is a moral dilemma. You could argue that it is a form of emotional blackmail, which is not very far removed from the blackmail of the kidnapper who sends an ear through the post to guarantee his million pound ransom money. Both are direct forms of coercion, and if that sounds shocking, just think about it. How much is a life worth? How much are we to be exposed to an assault on our senses? The question is raised but not answered - where is the line drawn and who decides?

Such techniques seem a million miles away from Toc H today, but as we increasingly compete in the market place we mustn't lose sight of the very thing we wish to share. You can't buy friendship, and fellowship has never been for sale.

I met a young member for the second time yesterday (7 October). When we first met four months ago he was homeless and it was impossible to get a word out of him. I was astonished by the change in so short a time. Toc H hasn't rehoused him; he is living in a portocabin on wasteland in an inner city. But the change in him was extraordinary. He knew who he was at last. He was chatting confidently and with ease to fellow members. How do you sell that? How much is it worth? And who decides?

Ruth Boyd

**Editor:** Ruth Boyd

**Editorial Assistant:** Thomas Hill Long

**Cover:** The Last Night of the Proms - Ballot winners in the Toc H box at the Royal Albert Hall. Jean and Edgar Stickley, Wyre Forest Branch.

**Photo:** Christine Bostock



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Letters, articles and news items are welcomed and should be addressed to The Editor, *Point three*, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT. Tel: 0296 623911. Fax: 0296 696137.

Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H movement.

*Point three* is available from Toc H Headquarters. Price: 30p per copy or £3.60 per year's subscription. Any contribution towards the high cost of postage will be gratefully accepted.

### BRANCH NEWS

We would like to receive more news from branches about their work in the community, such as individual projects.



# Postcard from Germany

Goodbye Dolly Gray. The ghost of a thousand and one soldiers stand in silent witness to the end of an era for Toc H in Wolfenbuttel, where the centre provided succour and comfort to so many.

A farewell kiss, the closing of the door, the key turning in the lock. The garrison complex at Wolfenbuttel will become a centre for refugees. The 13/18 Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) were the last regiment of the British Army to serve there. They will be disbanded and amalgamated. Christine Williams was the last Centre Manager. The Centre closed on 8 November 1992.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now to Projects: Our first project this year was the Rhine Army Summer Show. Four volunteers came from the UK to join us in Germany. The end result was an excellent Toc H presentation.

Our next two projects were Anglo-German, based on Lindridge House for special needs children. Thanks to Pen Bayley and John Bainbridge for making these successful.



Chris says goodbye to a soldier. The last centre Manager of Wolfenbuttel closes a chapter of history

We have completed five summer playschemes in Verden, Munster, Paderborn, Berlin and Senden. They have gone extremely well and have demonstrated that Toc H in Germany, the military authorities, our German neighbours and, most importantly, our volunteers from all points of the compass can get together to achieve both the aims of Toc H and to serve the community in which we live.

## Cannock Chase Reception

Toc H held a reception at the Haling Dene Centre, Penkridge, Staffordshire, on 17th September to mark the progress of the Cannock Chase Disabled Access Project and to outline plans for 1992. Seventy local business leaders, senior councillors, project volunteers and Toc H members attended the event. Chris Williams,



Simon Wadding (left) the Architect behind the Nature Trails with Ian Pearce (Fundraiser)

the Project organiser, gave a very informative talk on the project. A total of £10,000 support was pledged during the evening and discussions concerning an additional £17,000 sponsorship are underway. The Cannock Chase project is adequate proof that when we have a product worth promoting Toc H can 'sell' it superbly well.

Ian Pearce Fundraiser



Chris Williams (left) congratulated by Ruth Boyd



Guests at the Penkridge Reception

## BUNNY and CLIVE





## **Ruth Boyd spoke to Mid-East Chairman Alan Brooke at his home in East Anglia before later joining him on a project:**

**Ruth:** When people talk about Jesus of Nazareth it is often to give examples of His gentleness and compassion. Jesus had time for people who were not the obvious successes in life. He had time for people who were socially put down, people who were rejected, people who were lepers.... But what about the other Jesus? What about the Christ person who had tremendous courage, the person who challenged, the person who was not complacent? The Son of Man who changed the world? In its attempt to put into practice the teachings and example of Jesus, do you think that Toc H has overlooked this important aspect of Christ? Has the movement paid sufficient attention to people who are prepared to challenge and say 'No, this isn't a comfortable journey. This is what should happen.'? It is more difficult to be the person who says 'No, we must do This!'; to risk being unpopular. I suppose I am talking about leadership qualities.

**Alan:** You ask some difficult questions. It is difficult to give precise answers because each situation varies, but what I hope Toc H achieves for its members is to give them an understanding, a strength - a willingness and an adaptability to sometimes be compassionate, sometimes forceful, sometimes to lead from the front and sometimes from the back. But to be the sort of person who can meet a situation head on and not fold under a difficulty. To me Toc H has always tried to follow the road of Jesus, His teachings. Sometimes not with great success. But I believe that those members for whom Toc H is their life attempt to achieve far more than others and are given a strength to achieve greater things than people who have never had the opportunity ....

## **Share and Care - Hengrave Hall Summer 1992**

They called it Care and Share in the Toc H Projects Booklet and that was what the week at Hengrave Hall, Suffolk, was all about. Editor Ruth Boyd joined Mid-East Chairman Alan Brooke and co-founder of Saggers Branch, Olive Tennant, for the 17th consecutive holiday they have run for adult disabled people at this beautiful Elizabethan Manor House, an ecumenical centre owned by the Little Sisters of the Assumption.

The main impression I came away with after two days as a volunteer on the project, was a sense of awe and pride at having been able to see some Toc H work that is superbly well run. It was outstanding; with an

attention to detail that was the combined result of a lot of careful planning and years of experience.

I joined the group as they were arriving on the Friday afternoon and was surprised that there were as many as 12 wheelchairs. There were four other disabled people and 19 volunteers, with each disabled person having their own personal helper and companion for the week.



The age range of the volunteers was from 18 to 86. The eldest was one of those rare people with boundless energy and enthusiasm. It is a delight to be in her presence. Kathleen has been coming on the project as a volunteer for 16 years: 'It's a feeling of being a bit useful and every year you feel a bit better when you go home than when you came. You get your values in life. It sorts you out. You realise the values in life and the satisfaction you get in helping is hugely rewarding'.

There is a lot of emphasis on keeping people mentally occupied and interested. Breakfast is a lively social event. Alan has a few pieces to read out - Thoughts For the Day. They amuse, or make you think. Olive has announcements. Letters are hidden about the grounds and each day there is something else to find, like artificial flowers. Everyone is encouraged to look for them. The letters make up words and there is a daily search, so that by the end of the week there are enough to form a sentence. Everyone gets together to sort out this teaser and the sentence they decide upon might not be the one that Olive and Alan had chosen.



There were two large vehicles available for the week, each adapted for carrying wheelchairs. One of the volunteers, Brian, is a retired solicitor who spends all his time helping disabled people. He bought a Mercedes van and converted it to carry wheelchairs and brings it to Hengrave Hall each year. He is one of the key supporters; a main contributor to the project's efficiency and success and a co-driver each afternoon on the daily outings.

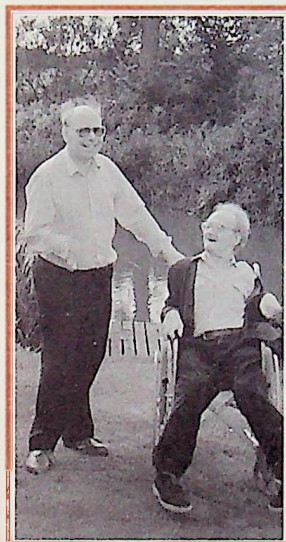




These trips out are a surprise which is kept secret until after lunch each day, although clues are given beforehand in the form of a riddle to add to the fun and to provide a topic for discussion. Only Alan and Olive know the itinerary in advance.



The photo shows Olive and Alan (standing right) in the lovely grounds of the farmhouse we visited on the Saturday afternoon.



Colin and Fred. Norwich-based Toc H member **Colin Websdell** (standing) has been disabled since birth and is a member of Saggars Branch. He cycles one-handed on sponsored rides for Toc H and other charities and raised over £1100 towards the project on one ride from Norwich to Hengrave - a return ride of 86 miles. Fred lived in a mental hospital for over 30 years - dismissed as deaf and dumb and incapable. He now lives in a comfortable

hostel run by Toc H member Jessie Pidgeon. I shall remember the look of joy and triumph on his face when he won a game of dominoes until the day I die.

The afternoon outing (never more than about 20 miles) is followed by a chance for a rest and a cup of tea before supper and the evening entertainment. Again this is a surprise each day and I was lucky to join in a marvellous wooden puppet show which ended with a nostalgic sing-song. Things started to get a bit riotous when


Alan and I danced a 'Fred and Ginger' routine, as this rapidly led to a wheelchair dance and the discovery that even a Highland reel is possible if you are determined enough.



My wheelchair-dance partner was Gwen. She has been looking forward to these holidays every year for the last 10 years and has been wheelchair-bound for 20 years. She is warm and affectionate and takes an interest in other people, but does not find this remarkable: 'No-one likes people who have self-pity; it makes them uneasy and they steer away. You have to look at the advantages of being disabled. The greatest one is that you develop much closer relationships than you would otherwise find'.

Leaving the project after the dancing made me feel like Cinderella. I drove off into the night thinking of all the warmth and love in that building. I mulled over the criticism I had heard concerning the project. There are those who dislike the fact that it is held every year. I have to disagree. There are a few new volunteers and disabled people each year - I collected two from the railway station, who were young police cadets from Hendon. Another came via Talbot House, recruited from the Projects booklet. But the core of people have been coming for a number of years and there are tremendous spin-offs from this continuity. None of the disabled will get any better; most of their disabilities get worse each year. There is the unspoken sharing that this involves - the sympathy with people like Tony, who could walk with a frame when he first came to Hengrave 15 years ago. Now he can't even feed himself. We all like to think we are sympathetic, are capable of empathy. **What can be greater than to share with people who really understand because they share the same problem, absolutely? What caring is greater?**

Taking people on a project, giving them a taste of Toc H and then putting them back into their environment has its place. Of course it has; unless you are just using people for the personal growth of the volunteers. But I think that the sustaining of caring relationships is of incalculable value. While I think there should always be room for one-off projects, one of my dreams is to make all our methods membership-based, so that there is a continuity and growth of fellowship and a link with branches at local level. I would be the first to join the queue for a Bucks-based Cameo Branch, for example.

**Ruth Boyd** 



# THE YETI GOES NATIONAL WEEKEND Jacqui Lane

This was held in Birmingham from 4-6 September - a weekend open to anyone involved in Toc H and organised by a group of younger members and people actively involved in the Movement although not signed-up members. The intention was to encourage people on the periphery of the Movement to become more involved and to find out more about what we do.

We achieved this through various means: display stands around the centre we stayed at in Alvechurch, discussions on various types of prejudice that exist within today's society - tackling issues such as racism, ageism, sexual orientation, religious prejudice, and prejudice



within Toc H as a movement. The discussions were preceded by a talk about the history and ethos of Toc H by John Dixon.

The Barn Dance on the Friday evening was put together by Rob Dixon and was a good ice breaker for the main activity of the weekend in Birmingham's Bull Ring. The 'Yeti Hunt' and 'Wishing Well' survey, together with Toc H displays and a mass busking session, certainly drew a lot of attention and we handed out nearly 2000 leaflets during the day and over 600 Toc H helium balloons. The Yeti Hunt was launched by the Lord and Lady Mayoress and costumes for the hunt included a



surgeon with three hands, a lollypop lady, a white rabbit and a scarecrow. The Lord Mayor then joined in the busking, causing his wife to remark: 'Oh well, I could leave him here all day now - he's in his element'.

Saturday evening began with a barbeque and dancing till midnight to live music, followed by ice-breaking games. Neal Terry brought the weekend to a close on Sunday with Reflections.

Fifty volunteers had taken part - 28 males and 22 females with an age range varying from 17 to 71 years. Forty-three branches supported us, which was wonderful, not just to receive the cheques but to be given heartfelt good wishes and support in something totally new and untested. This is a good place to say how much it was appreciated - we couldn't have done it without you!

An important outcome of the weekend was the number of names and addresses from people who expressed an interest in what we did. These are being passed around the country to staff, project coordinators and local branches, so please help us to continue what we started by following up these people for us, encouraging them to be involved in the home locations. We felt it to be a great success and a wonderful publicity event for the promotion of a movement very close to all our hearts. Perhaps you would like to organise a Yeti event yourself?



On 2 June the Mayor of Stockport, Councillor John Lloyd OBE, invited voluntary organisations in Stockport to join him for a thank you celebration day. Toc H members arranged a display of their work and activities and the photo shows (from left to right): Elsie Norbury, Hilda Evans, Bert Hill (Hazel Grove Branch) and Isabel and Alan Clarkson (Stockport Branch).

Chalfont Branch enjoyed an outing to Woburn Abbey in July. Entertainment was provided by the monkeys in the Safari Park and a large lion, which was reluctant to move from his favourite resting place in the middle of the road! After a picnic lunch in the deer park, Bedford Branch put on a splendid tea at the Quaker Meeting House in Bedford.

Worthing Men's Branch presented a cheque for £1000 to 'Careline', run by Worthing Borough Council. This donation brings the total sum given over the last few years to £5000. Although the branch is small in numbers, they are still very active. The photo shows Bill Brough presenting the cheque to the Mayor, Councillor Mrs Mary Wilton, with branch members Les Matthews, Bill Fox and Vivian Gates and an organiser from Careline.



# OPEN DAY AT HEADQUARTERS

It was at one of our staff meetings that someone suggested we hold an open day for members - and so the first seed was planted. At a few short 'get togethers' we made our arrangements. What did we need? Flowers, lots of food and drink, a display of archive material. Something for people to buy and take home with them, a map of the building, and a raffle would be a good idea - and so it evolved. We'd all make some cakes; we hoped it would be a nice day - but then it usually rains on market day! We'd just have to wait and see.



Thursday (Wendover's market day) dawned and the forecast was bad, very bad, heavy showers. However a bright blue and white striped tent was set up in the garden for the food - out of bounds until lunch time - and lots of homemade cakes and goodies were spread over the tables. The flowers had been arranged the previous day and upstairs on the landing there was an interesting display of Toc H archive material. Then the doorbell rang and the scene was instantly transformed. Lots of smiling faces and chattering, signing of names and each person receiving a map of the building with a lucky number for the raffle.



It was a whirl of excitement and we calculated that 80 lunches would be required. The archives created a great deal of interest and people were queueing to pick up Toc H literature and purchase ties, tee shirts, badges, etc. In the Membership Department the map showing the Regions and pin-pointing Branches caused much interest.

After a lunch accompanied by much buzzing of conversation, coffee was served and the raffle was drawn.



It became brighter outside. Some guests were keen to look round the market and visit the Toc H Charity Shop, others engaged with old acquaintances in conversation. All too soon the day came to an end. There were fond farewells and photographs were taken. As we waved our friends goodbye, we all agreed what a successful day it had been.

Hazel Scarlett  
Membership Department ■



# The Jewel of Africa

## - Zimbabwe

Adrian Dudman

For nearly a whole month this summer my wife Anne and I travelled over 5000 km in a beautiful country being torn apart by severe drought. We met many, many people from all shades of background, both young and elderly, black and white.

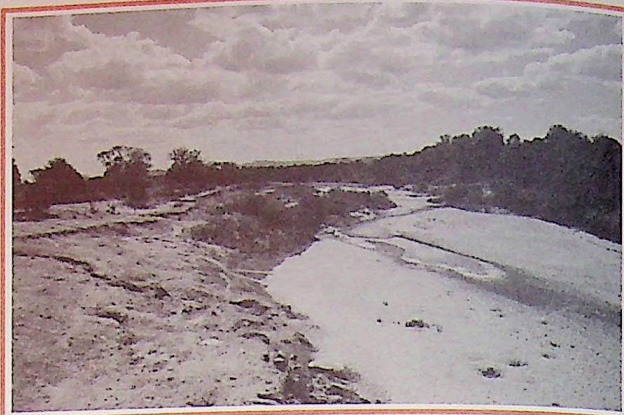
We went to Zimbabwe to visit our daughter and son-in-law, Sue and Jeremy, teaching at a school out in the bush at Zinatsa, about 100 miles south of Harare. They are doing two years with VSO in Zinatsa, living at a very basic level. The problems are considerable, but they remain sunny, optimistic and completely committed to their involvement with pupils and local village communities. Their basic diet comprises vegetables, when they can get them, together with mealie meal, boiled to create a dish called sadza. They have to travel 30 km to get vegetables, on a dirt road with one bus a day. In normal circumstances they were able to buy them from local villagers or the school agricultural scheme, but these have all failed this year.



There is no water on tap; all water has to be gathered and carried from their nearest bore hole, about 1 km from their base. The bore hole is 70 metres deep and has to be hand pumped. While we were there, it took four of us pumping for an hour to get five litres of water. The hole is very nearly dry. The nearest place that a new hole could be sunk is over 3 km away from their base. This, then, is a daily routine for everybody to gather water for every day needs. Water is more precious than diamonds or gold. Just learning how to live at such a basic level is hard and humbling. It gives a new perspective of what is really important in our lives.

We don't know what drought conditions are, here in the U.K. In Bulawayo they are rationed to 250 litres of water per day. In Masevingo and Umtali they are rationed to 100 litres every other day. It is cut off for 36 hours and on for twelve. Bore holes are drying up at a prolific rate. Almost all the rivers we saw, and there are a great many, were completely dry or only had puddles left in the middle of the river bed. Lake Kyle, formerly Zimbabwe's largest body of water, holding 1400 million cubic meters, has completely dried up. Lake Cheveru, where we visited the Women's Branch of Toc H, is the main supplier of water for Harare and is less than two thirds full. With careful rationing it might just last out until the rains come. If they come. The Save river, the main river feeding

into the Limpopo, is completely dry, as is the Limpopo itself. Cattle and goats are skin and bone, reduced to eating the dead leaves from the scrawny bushes, and the earth is scorched and barren for mile after mile.



The knock-on effect of all this is absolutely disastrous. We were witnessing a human tragedy in the making, soon to join that of Ethiopia and Somalia. The crops have failed again this year because the rains were well below the minimum. This is a cumulative problem - the rainfall for the past ten years has been under average and for the past three years the rains have failed almost completely. Even if the rains come, an above-average rainfall will be required just to ensure survival. Early signs are that they will fail.

It is the African in the bush who most suffers. His living is from his few goats and cattle, chickens, vegetables, ground nuts and maize. His whole economic way of life has been destroyed. There is no social security, no alternative employment. No savings, no pensions; he is on his own and has to survive the best he can, surrounded on the frontiers by other nations which relied upon Zimbabwe for their food. The war in Mozambique, bordering on Zimbabwe, has resulted in refugees to exacerbate the situation; making more demands on overstretched meagre resources. Zimbabwe, the Bread Basket of Africa, reduced to importing food and aid at tremendous cost.

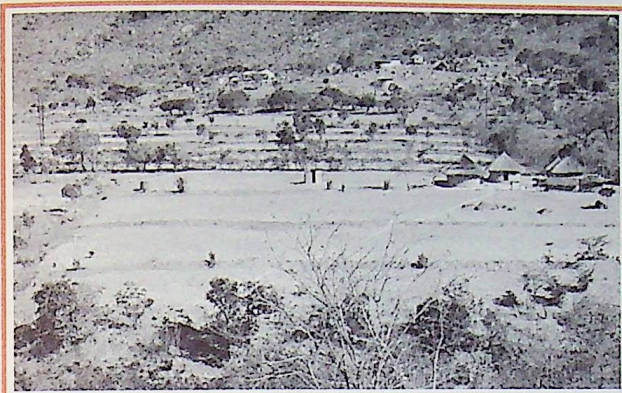


And what of the children of the African whose livelihood has gone? Education has to be paid for in cash. School fees out in Zinatsa are \$60 each term plus \$5 extra for agriculture and \$10 extra for sport per pupil. Then they have to pay for exams at \$10 each subject. For Junior Certificate each pupil has to take eight subjects. Senior pupils have to take GCE Cambridge O Level with a minimum of five subjects. The cost of this has just risen from \$55 to \$108 each subject. Because of the drought, at



Zinatasa alone 60 pupils have dropped out. The Government have decreed that English must be the first language so all pupils need this at GCE level, since without it they will never get a job. Because of the rise in fees and the economic climate, it is envisaged that by next year more than 50% will drop out from school. (Yet, when Mugabe came to power he promised that all education would be free). The average agricultural and domestic wage for the African is \$125 a month.

The coffee, tea and cotton growing areas this year have all failed. The tobacco industry, their second largest industry, has had poor quality yields which affects prices. Mining for the rich minerals, very dependent upon water, is cut. The electricity supply is on the brink of collapse as all the power stations are completely reliant upon water for generation. Water is so low at Kariba that shortly it will be below the effective level for generating electricity. Places like Harare and Bulawayo have systematic power cuts and industry is working well below par.



It is a desperate situation for everyone, black and white. And it was against this backdrop that we met Toc H in Zimbabwe, at a time when drought is causing death. Despite the appalling hardship, in all our travels, particularly in the bush, we were greeted enthusiastically with beaming smiles. The generosity and hospitality we were given; the obvious sacrifice that individuals and families underwent because of our presence, was at times most embarrassing. We visited the family of one of the pupils from Zinatasa School. Memory had a 20th birthday and we went to wish her birthday greetings and to deliver a card and very modest gift. They were a very poor family, having lost all their crops, yet the following day Memory delivered a big bag of ground nuts as a gift to us, and it soon became clear this was half her seed for next year. *An extraordinary example of unselfish giving.* Among our Toc H friends we were lavished with wonderful hospitality, acutely aware of very difficult personal circumstances.

On our arrival at Harare Airport there were not just Sue and Jeremy to greet us. Pat Roberts and Thelma Bryan, from Harare Toc H, were there with a placard saying 'Welcome to Zimbabwe', though we were not due to see them for a fortnight. We toured round the country with Sue and Jeremy, visiting areas of stark contrast. The beautiful mountain area of Nyanga, and then down through the scorched plains to Masvingo and Mutare. Wange Game Park held a whole variety of animals in their natural habitat. From there to Bulawayo, a beautiful town with Victorian colonial architecture, wide streets and lovely parks. We visited the Matopos, a National, natural park of outstanding beauty together

You cannot help but be seriously affected if you travel in the nations of central southern Africa. I left with a committed determination to do something about it. With your help we can do so much more. For instance:

- ★ Paying the cost of a staff person for three years to develop a new Toc H Zimbabwe.
- ★ Twinning with the branches in Harare and Bulawayo to share experiences, views and general encouragement.
- ★ Setting up a bursary to help families with school fees.
- ★ Providing up-to-date text books for schools, pens and pencils, etc.
- ★ Raising funds for basic sports equipment.
- ★ Raising funds to help set up rehabilitation centres for the destitute.
- ★ Stocking school libraries with books, atlases, dictionaries, reference books, novels.
- ★ Sponsoring students for O and A levels.
- ★ Providing old Singer Sewing machines and agricultural tools.
- ★ Providing new toilets for schools.

Here we have an opportunity to be involved at a personal level. I am reminded of Tubby's appeal to Toc H after his visit to Africa, when he was so touched by the appalling plight of the lepers. From that appeal 12 men responded and gave up their homes and lives in this country to go out and serve in the leper colonies.

Are we as a Movement sufficiently concerned about the plight of Zimbabwe to respond positively? Are there any members who feel they could respond by going out there to help develop Toc H?

Will you think about this? Above all pray constantly for them and search your own hearts as to how you can respond. If you want more information, I will be very pleased to meet you and furnish it. Don't let substantial help be just a dream, as a movement we can make it reality.



with a variety of wild animals. Then down to Victoria Falls, a stupendous sight, although with hardly any water flowing over the Zambian side and the volume much reduced on the Zimbabwe side. To round it all off, a sunset champagne cruise on the Zambezi. Breathtaking.

Back to Harare, to meet with Toc H, and down to Bulawayo again to meet the remainder of Toc H centred around the town. Toc H in Zimbabwe mainly consists of expatriates. There are two units in Harare: a women's branch and the only unit in the country consisting of Africans and whites, a relatively new young peoples' group. There are a few expats, men who meet up with this group as and when they can. Toc H own two large hostels in Harare, King's House and Barbour House. Both take approximately 50 residents each and are run on similar lines to that of our former Marks. Both had a mixture of young black Africans living away from home, studying or in apprenticeship or training in Harare, retired expats on their own, and a smattering of other individuals.

We stayed in the Warden's flat at King's House and Jill (Frank Guest's daughter), acting as Warden/Housekeeper, made us very welcome. We linked up with Pat Roberts and Thelma Bryan who showed us the sights and sounds of Harare, introducing us to their various Toc H projects. First was Rest Haven, a residential retreat camp about 30 miles outside Harare in a beautiful country setting. Here the Young Peoples' Group, under the leadership of Dominic Sikuka, were running a weekend project for orphaned children from Harare. Many of the Toc H members had joined them for this weekend and, while we were joining in the fun, I was honoured to initiate two new young Africans into the group - Ponds Phiri and Takawira Chihwayi.

Most of the group are keen and dedicated young Africans. The mini bus bought by the UK North West Region is an absolute boon and has made all the difference in the world. Transport is a major problem for Toc H in Zimbabwe.

All the children except one were abandoned Africans being cared for by the Emerald Hill Orphanage run by Catholic nuns and The Harare Children's Homes sponsored by the Government. The group visit the Emerald Hill orphanage once a week to help the children with their homework and teach them English. Once a month they endeavour to take some away for a residential weekend.

This is a big commitment and constantly involves them in raising funds to meet the expenses of such a programme. They are very committed but thirsty for news of Toc H. More importantly they need to hear from a wide variety

of members about their experiences of Toc H and the philosophy which underlies all our involvements. Here is a pioneering group struggling against the odds to make its mark and gather strength in a fairly hostile and indifferent environment. They need all our prayers for the continual struggle and our praise and thanks for their example of dedication to the task.



Then we visited the Emerald Hill Home to meet more of the children and staff. The love and care here was tremendous and we heard appalling stories of the background of some of the children. The need for child care is unimaginable. We witnessed hordes of children begging on the streets, their only food, if they were lucky, from the daily feeding programme centred on the Cathedral. Some Toc H members help on a rota basis in the kitchens, preparing the meal. Local churches give a proportion of their collection to the destitute as well as food.

The age of the destitute ranges from the four-to-five year olds to the elderly. They have no home, no employment and no one to care for them; their only hope of survival is the Cathedral feeding programme. This keeps them alive. Alive for what? Here is real need - to be loved and wanted, to have a purpose, for dignity to be restored. Then there is the need to provide for themselves and feel integrated instead of outcasts, and above all to give them hope. The sight of that endless queue of quiet, dignified, patient people with vacant eyes, waiting to be fed, will haunt me for a long time. It was terribly distressing. What haunts me is that the situation is deteriorating on a scale almost too horrific to contemplate. We as a family of Toc H **must do something**.

We were taken to visit a family which Toc H have adopted. They were living in a log store at the back of a set of flats. The roof to the store was a tarpaulin, the front open to the elements and draped with cardboard and scraps of tattered material to give privacy. The mother, a widow and fine Christian woman, looked after two mentally retarded adult children. Here was an example of Africans exploiting their own kind, for she had to pay \$100 a month rent for this hovel. She had no income but was being helped by Toc H and some of the churches. She was but one of many families and individuals existing at that level. She had only what she was given, but she shared this with others in the same plight. She received us most graciously, with a beaming smile, profusely giving thanks for Toc H and their friendship. This was a real lesson in humility, and we came away with tears in our eyes and our hearts touched by such a living faith.

Next we met Harare Young Peoples' Branch and other





members in their meeting place at the side of King's House. Here they heard something of Toc H in the UK and I challenged them with some of the real needs in Harare and further afield. The following day it was the Women's Branches turn and we met with them at Lake Cheveru. They gave us lavish hospitality and warm fellowship. We were able to share some of our experiences and challenge them with needs for the future. Although most of the ladies are elderly they are nonetheless actively involved. Their concern is for the future of the Movement in Zimbabwe, as they feel trapped and impotent at not being able to do much about it. Their vision is clouded and they feel alone and terribly isolated.

I don't underestimate the difficulties, but they are not insurmountable. The one thing they all hold onto is their commitment to the ideals of Toc H and they all have hope. They look upon the UK as the mother country of Toc H and they do not see themselves as something separate. They thirst for news and views from the motherland, but the links are very tenuous. We need to do more to keep in touch with the family in far-flung places. Whatever happens to Toc H in Harare, the flag will be kept flying to the last dying member.



We will always remember the warmth and friendship we were offered so liberally while on our short visit to them.

From Harare we travelled down to Bulawayo by express bus to meet the members. We were met by Margaret McBain, our hostess for the duration of our stay in Bulawayo. Once again the hospitality afforded us in very difficult circumstances was stupendous. Our first visit was to Jacaranda House, a home for elderly expats. This was spaciouly appointed with a delightful, dedicated staff running the place. Toc H started this project many years ago and they continue actively to serve on the management of the home and make regular visits to the many residents. We moved on to visit the Senior Citizens' Day Club, a large bungalow property left to Toc H as a day club for the elderly.

From here we were introduced to the Bulawayo Refuge, the vision of a remarkable lady called Inez Calderwood, who showed us round. Here was a refuge with a difference. Besides providing shelter, beds and food, it also incorporated a rehabilitation programme to teach residents a skill which would enable them to fend for themselves in the future. Highlights included teaching students how to grow their own crops and vegetables. Toc H helped provide funds for a water bore hole.

A cobbler could mend and repair shoes that we wouldn't even dream of putting in a jumble sale, and using the most primitive tools. The women were dressmaking,



producing impressive garments out of scraps of material. Here, then, in a small but very significant way, was what could be done if one is committed to the vision.

We shared an evening with a gathering of all the Toc H members at the Robert Tregold centre, the Toc H property in Bulawayo. This is a very modern one-storey building with a large, well furnished meeting room, kitchen, toilets and small Area office. There is an adjoining residence, at present let out to provide a small income. This was another occasion of marvellous fellowship with members who were hungry for news and views of Toc H UK. Unlike Harare, all the members here are expats. They haven't yet managed to break into the African population. But like Harare, they are concerned about the future. The challenge is tremendous and they need help.

This is the picture of Toc H in Zimbabwe. Depleted in numbers, they are nonetheless very committed and faithful to the Movement. Working in the main in isolation, they have little contact or support from the mother country.



They are very depressed about the future and lack the vision and necessary impetus to help them move forward.

All that they do is tremendously worthwhile and continues to uphold the ideals of Toc H in a very real way, but their light is under a bushel and the real challenges for them and for Zimbabwe are not being heard. The potential is there for great things to happen and I believe there are many members who would respond to a real challenge, given a little support.

When you see that human beings can be changed, you can begin to have a solid hope and vision for the future. But without commitment, a vision remains a dream and can result in an ageing generation of embittered idealists. If we want to turn the tide we will have to commit ourselves. If you will the end, you must will the means. This may involve change and sacrifice for ourselves, as individually we will find that in doing God's will we are laying the foundation of a new loving and caring society for our children and grandchildren.



## Your Letters

The Editor, Point 3,  
Toc H Headquarters,  
1 Pompey Close,  
Wendover, Aylesbury,  
Bucks., HP22 6ST

### Becoming Better People

In Toc H we care for and look after our client groups, but I am concerned with the people we so often forget - each other.

I feel that the Four Points of the Compass, which so many of us hold dear, are either being forgotten or cast aside. I recently heard a long-standing member say, when challenged about Fairmindedness, 'That's alright in your branches'. Similarly, another member said, when she heard the names of two new members, 'Toc H will accept anyone as members now'.

I cannot say that I am perfect but I am working hard at trying to correct my faults and using Toc H as a model for living. When I see and hear incidents such as those I wonder if I am thinking that Toc H is better than it is. It is only when I remember people like my sponsor Harry Brier, and my Branch Chairman Dick Stayman, that I realise Toc H's principles are worthwhile and the attitudes of people like those above only make me think that we all have to work harder to become better people.

**Suzanne Dunwell**

Projects Co-Ordinator *Bedale, N. Yorks.*

### Great Effort, Little Support

Hurrah, hurrah. Contrary to the thoughts of many, Toc H lives on quite healthily and is not dying. Thanks to people like Jacqui Lane, Matthew Plumridge and, of course, the 'Yeti' and all the many helpers during the Yeti Goes National weekend.

The great amount of effort they put in, their wonderful enthusiasm and love for Toc H was a joy to behold. We were reluctant to leave and came away uplifted. Toc H will live on.

Sadly, very little support was given by the Movement. To other long-standing members: do support the newer and younger ones. 'Strengthen the good things thus begun', by young and not so young.

**Betty Wood and Megan Kirkham**

*Solihull Women's Branch*

### Happy Outcome

May I send our sincere thanks to all Toc H Branches in the West Midlands (particularly to the Gloucester Branch), who did so much to make the stay of our Russian orphan children such a memorable event - as recorded so excellently in your September issue.

*You may be interested to hear about subsequent events.*

All the children are due to return to England during September following offers of one-year scholarships by many preparatory schools throughout the UK. These schools are as far apart as the Isle of Wight and Gordonstoun in Scotland!

We have been given two schools in St Petersburg and

Moscow, both of which need total refurbishment. One will accommodate 65 orphaned children, and the Moscow school will eventually take 'street children' aged between 15 and 17.

I am so grateful for what Toc H has done. I have always had a very great admiration for your organisation, mainly due to the calibre of the members I have met. It is good to remind myself again of the spiritual pledge highlighted at the beginning of *Point three*.

There will be an explosion of creative talent coming out of Russia throughout the next few years and I believe that the opportunities for Toc H, and those organisations which have similar ideals, will be tremendous.

One thing I am considering at present is the possibility of opening an international children's summer camp on the Black Sea for disadvantaged children in Eastern Europe.

Please pass on my sincere thanks to all those concerned, for their wonderful encouragement.

**Hedley Roberts**

The Hedley Roberts Trust *Henley-on-Thames*

### Serious Omission

It was good to read of the wonderful hospitality given by members of Toc H and their friends to 50 orphans from Russia. I was, however, saddened to note that it never occurred to anyone to show them Gloucester's beautiful Cathedral, especially when I read: 'We had been with them for over eight hours'.

The Cathedral might have been explained to them as evidence of our Christian foundations or as our hope for the future. And the amazing craftsmanship of the builders could not have failed to impress the visitors. Incidents of this kind give support to our critics who claim that Toc H no longer has any spiritual significance.

**Padre Rupert Bacon** *Worthing*

### Images of Africa

Spectacular sunsets... the incredible, velvet night skies and the ever-accompanying song of the cicadas... the burning, ochre-red earth... our potted Christmas poinsettias growing to their full, glorious height... the beauty of the birds - even the common starlings are glossy!... the thrill of spotting white rhino and a leopard stalking its prey... the glowing eyes of wildebeest invading the camp after dark... the wonder and majesty of Great Zimbabwean ruins... the first, breathtaking glimpse of Victoria Falls... steam trains evoking comfortable memories of a bygone past... ragged, barefoot, cheerful, waving children... bargaining for souvenirs with tee-shirts and lighters... exhaust fume spewing, crowded, rattling buses with goats and bicycles and chickens on top... women, always walking with head laden, infant on the back and fingers ever busy, knitting... stoning the scrawny cattle and goats at the bore-hole lest they compete for and spoil a precious human resource... the warm hospitality at the Mhiza family's roundavel village... the colourful African weddings in the Park at Bulawayo... hugging my Christian sister outside her cardboard and polythene shack... the gentle Christian love that flowed from Father Phillip at Linatsa and the beaming, open African smile.

**Anne Dudman** *Aylesbury* ■



## BRANCH NEWS



Denise Atkinson, Lord Mayor of Leeds, with Bill - one of the winning side of the annual dominoes competition run by Bramley Branch for eight sheltered homes throughout the winter months. The photo was taken at the final presentation evening.

Stockport Branch have enjoyed two coach outings recently. On the first, members took a party of housebound friends to Bakewell for a look at the Derbyshire scenery. The second trip was to Knowsley Safari Park and Southport and is 'highly recommended'. Through Oxfam, the branch have donated some of their profit from this excursion to the Africa Crisis Appeal.



Reginald Gates reports that one of the newer members of Chippenham Joint Branch, 24-year-old Nadide Yalcin, a qualified electronics and communications engineer, recently returned to her native Turkey after a two-year stay in England. She came here to improve her English and studied part of the time at Chippenham Technical College. Choosing a residential project for the Gold Medal of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, she became involved with a Toc H project with children.

Soon after coming to Chippenham, she started looking for Toc H. A chance meeting with Mrs Shirley Gates, one of several members' wives who had been attending the branch since it went joint, resulted in her joining the Movement. Nadide has a serious interest in the Girl Guides and intends to set up a group in her town and invite girls from England. Her latest challenge is Operation Raleigh, now called Raleigh International, which can become a lifetime involvement.

When her daughter Kim became engaged, Penelope Bayley described her great joy at being involved in the wedding preparations ('Arranging a Wedding', *Point three*, Dec. 1991, p. 13). And it gave her the greatest pleasure when she was asked to make the cake: '...I cried. What joy, what fun, how wonderful to be asked. ...' Readers may be interested in the outcome, which Penelope briefly described to the editor:

'I'm enclosing photos... one of Kim and Matthew... with the cake. After making every last flower and leaf, it shattered me when they just went and cut it. If I'd known they'd treat it like that, I'd never have done it! The day was perfect, I don't think I've ever had a better day in my life. When I wrote that piece for *Point three* my heart was full of hopes and dreams and expectations of the day, and it surpassed every one. ...'



### Bideford Joint Branch

*Beryl Hammond, Branch Chairman, writes:*

A very special 'Blind' night on 16 September suddenly reminded me that, 50 years ago, the Women's Branch took the 'Blind' as their branch project. Through all these years we have devoted the third Wednesday to the blind and poorly sighted. From the beginning Round Table brought our guests from a home at Instow and from their own homes. Latterly, our guests came from a home at Torrington, and Rotary took over bringing them to and from. The Men's Branch project was with the handicapped, so now we have a happy union with the two together. The 16th was special because we met for the first time in our new Springfield Centre where we held our Harvest Thanksgiving. It is beautifully sited beside the River Torridge, no awkward steps, ample parking, with a warm luxurious welcome. The World Chain of Light will hold greater depth as we give thanks for 50 years, and our Christmas Party should be decked with gold.

Although some branches down here are holding on bravely with two or three members, we are concerned because we meet with only eight, including two probationers! We are inspired to hold fast (as Tubby begged us to do when he visited Barnstaple the year before he died), both by Alice Welford's devotion, example and teaching and also by Keith's, with whom we could discuss Toc H matters and to whom every member was known. Please, everyone, pray for our struggling branches. We give thanks for what we have achieved over 50 years, and hope with the next 50 years' growth to fulfil Tubby's fondest hopes.



Congratulations to Margaret Lawrence on achieving 50 years of membership. Margaret Wilkins (left) presented a basket of flowers on behalf of Rushden Women's Oatley Branch





The hard work of Leeds District in preparing a Concert in Ossett Town Hall certainly paid off - it was an outstanding success, and the Yorkshire Evening Post Brass Band played to a packed audience. Editor Ruth Boyd found it 'a very memorable evening, with a mixture of traditional and popular music - and the marvellous atmosphere of the Last Night of the

Proms. There was a solid Toc H turnout from Bridlington, Sheffield, Huddersfield and Leeds District'. The occasion was a publicity event to draw attention to the work of Toc H, particularly in the Wakefield area and to the new Toc H Group in Horbury. The Group has established a very successful Friendship Circle for lonely and elderly people living alone. Staff member Bill Bains has been very supportive to the venture and was very much behind the success of the concert, as were Geoff (see photo) and Doris Wright, Cynthia and Ken Quayle, Molly and Vivien Sharman, and Dorothy Benn. More than £150 profit was raised.



**Wolverton Men's Branch** held their annual car outing for the elderly on 9 August. 'After an enjoyable ride we visited Buckingham's new branch room for tea. It was a pleasure to see familiar faces and chat with people we had not seen for a long time', writes William Pedley.

In 1991, former member Gladys Gage left a legacy to **Enfield Women's Branch**. Joan Sargent reports that although the branch is 64 years old and the present membership very small, they are pleased to have been able to use the legacy to help a variety of causes, including local and national charities, the local hospital (with equipment), a local park (with a seat) and Toc H projects.

**Huddersfield District** enjoyed a pleasant get together at the dedication of their new meeting rooms, where staff member Alan Budge has his office. The rooms are beautifully decorated and have a nostalgic feel. There is a picture of the Upper Room at Talbot House and the original Lamp granted to Huddersfield Toc H in 1922. The old and new versions of the Ceremony of Light were taken by Harry Brier and Anne Puddicombe and Padre Reg Baldock gave a short address and blessing.

**Chiltern Hills Branch** held a 'Thank You' lunch at Headquarters on 19 September for all their volunteers who contribute so much to the continued success of the Charity Shop at Wendover.



**Crewkerne Branch** are busy raising funds towards their next project. They hope to take a party of disabled children to Lindridge House for a holiday. The photo shows members manning a stall at a car boot sale.



**A Real Toc H Wedding!** What a celebration it was when two members, Philip Coomes and Maureen Freeman (**Loughborough Joint Branch**) got married on 15 August at St Peter's Church, Oadby, Leicester. The photo shows local Toc H members with Philip and Maureen.

Norman Grimes, a supporter of **Somerton Branch**, organised a successful concert, which took place on 15 September. The Glastonbury Male Voice Choir gave their services free and all proceeds are going towards the branch project - holidays for deprived children at Lindridge House. A Social Evening was held on 10 October to raise funds for the same cause.

The May 1992 Friends of Khasdobir newsletter's report of activities and needs, prompted the **Melton Mowbray Men's Branch** to do something to help financially. A coffee morning was held on 5 September in the branch rooms and members and friends helped with raffle prizes and supported a Bring & Buy stall. A net total of £111.20 was raised!

Congratulations to Louisa and John Evans on the birth of their son - David John - on the 23 September.

Congratulations to Alan Budge and Penny on the birth of their daughter - Elizabeth Catherine - on 29 September.

Welcome to Gillian Galloway who joined HQ Staff on 7 September as Senior Accounts Clerk



## Toc H Christmas Cards

£2.00 per pack



Series A: 10 full colour cards in various designs, including robins and other Christmas themes.

10 full colour religious designs.  
Series B: 10 full colour religious designs. Two different designs: nativity scene and three kings. 5 of each in pack.



Christmas cards are available at South Western Regional venues or Central Council. After November from Headquarters at Wendover

Welcome to 15

## New Members

The following new members were registered during November

Joseph T Hooper (Alvechurch M)  
Andrea Sonntag (Berlin J Grp)  
Mrs Janet Strachan (Levenmouth J)  
Mrs Maureen L Coomes,  
Miss Margaret D Roberts (Loughborough J)  
Miss May Fryer, Miss Marjorie I Marchant,  
Mrs Vera V Pearce (Melton Mowbray W)  
Andrew A Tinsley (Nottingham City J)  
Peter R Branch (Orston J)  
Mrs Etheldreda M Davies (Solihull W)  
Miss Sarah J Piercy (South Devon District)  
Robert Jones (Station J)  
Martin A Barnett, Mark Slack (Winsford J)

## Deaths

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In August Aimee M Clark (Coupar Angus)  
Ida L Fisher (Bideford)  
Nancy Green (Mansfield Woodhouse)  
Rose E Yallup (Spalding)

In September Albert T Boreham (Barkingside)  
Ben W Cooper (Ipswich M)  
Edith M Champion (Weymouth)  
Albert E P 'Ber' Kay (Newbury)  
John Quimby (Ashby de la Zouch)  
Eric Sinclair (Ashby de la Zouch)

Not previously recorded—Arthur Bone (Largs)  
Arthur W Gurney (Buckland)  
Marjorie I Little (Alston)  
William Robertson (Largs)

## SPECIAL TRIBUTES

Nellie Wafer, who died recently, was a founder member of Truro Branch (now closed). Together with colleagues, she worked steadfastly to equip and maintain the Toc H hut at Perranporth. Her many interests and involvements stemmed from her Christian faith. She was a worshipper and church warden of St John's parish church, Truro, and she was involved in the work of the Truro Council of Churches and the British and Foreign Bible Society. She was a friend to many in kindly and thoughtful ways. May she rest in peace. WP

Mrs Aimee Clark, one of the six founder members of Coupar Angus Women's Branch, died on 14 August. Although latterly poor health prevented her from active involvement, she contributed to the life of the Branch in many other ways. She will be sadly missed. EC

E.C. and Tower Hill Branch regretfully note the death of Mrs Lily May Price on 19 July. She was in her 80s and was a member in the days when the branch met at Crutched Friars (and once entertained HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother to tea). May was a very active worker, joining in all activities. A very lovely lady indeed. We will miss her cheerful letters. SJC

Albert McDowell, known to all as 'Mac', died on 11 August aged 79. He came into Toc H very early in his adult life and was a tireless and enthusiastic worker for the Movement right up to his death. For many years he was treasurer of Kendal Branch. He was a devout Christian. A large part of his life was given to work for the sick and needy. He espoused many causes, in particular working for the Leprosy Mission. His death leaves a great gap in our ranks. He will be mourned and sorely missed by all who knew him. AW

Alfred S. Blanchard, who died recently, known as 'Skegg', was a member of staff when Headquarters were located at 47 Francis Street. Skegg was in charge of all parcels and mailings, including the *Toc H Journal*. He had served in one of the home forces during the war and continued to be involved in the Red Cross afterwards. If one consulted him for advice or information, he would be very thorough and patient in his reply - qualities that must have made him a good teacher of Red Cross cadets. The same qualities were evident later when he and others took coach parties to Poperinge and Bruges. Skegg was a keen photographer and for many years was behind the camera at Toc H Council Meetings. He also manned the literature stall at Council and at Toc H festivals. JG

Winifred Kate Leeding ('Winnie'), a founder member and Pilot of Rushden Women's Branch, died peacefully on 30 August at the age of 85. She long played an active part in the Movement. Her late husband, Cyril, was also a member of Toc H. FP

Joyce Bestelink, who died in April, devoted many years to Toc H both as a member and as a Builder. She joined the Movement in 1946, serving as North London Central Councillor, North London District Treasurer, and helping to organise and run the Toc H East Barnet Old Peoples' Club. She came as a branch member to work as PA to John Burgess in Headquarters, Tower Hill, in the National Projects Office. Her good commonsense, organising skills and good humour were invaluable. She was very generous to the Movement, both financially and of herself, and she will be sadly missed by her many friends. JUB



## TOC H CAROL SERVICE AT ALL HALLOWS CHURCH

Saturday 12 December 1992 at 2.30 pm

*Further details from:* Connie Pring  
39 Princes Plain  
Bromley Common  
Kent BR2 8LH  
Tel: 081 462 8164 (after 7 pm)

## World Chain of Light 1992

### CUDDESDON VIGIL

A World Chain of Light vigil will be held at Cuddesdon House from 6.30 pm on Friday 11 December to 9 pm on Saturday 12 December.

Our theme this year will be 'A Faith To Live By Within The Family'. You are welcome to join us for part or all of the vigil. There will be a creche available and for full details of the programme and costs please apply to:

Alex Fox, Lindridge House, Lindridge Hill, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ13 3QE. Tel: 0626 65670.

## MUGGED

A Cameo for potential victims and mugging offenders will be held in Bristol on Friday 11 December.

Many elderly people are so afraid about the prospect of being attacked that they become prisoners in their own home. Are these fears worse than the reality?

The Cameo is an opportunity to meet with people with different attitudes and experience of crime.

*For more information contact:*  
Ian Moore, 64 Downend Road,  
Horfield, Bristol BS7 9PN

## The Beginning of World Chain of Light 1992

This year you are invited to join us at the beautiful Toc H Centre at Port Penrhyn to celebrate the international start of the World Chain of Light. This location, overlooking the Isle of Anglesey and the Menai Strait, with the mountains of Snowdonia nearby, is a wonderful place to come away to for a few days and to reflect quietly with others on Toc H.

You are very welcome to be with us from Friday evening 11 December to Sunday morning 13 December, or any part of that time. We do need to know numbers, so please tell us if you are coming as far in advance as you can. Dormitory accommodation for 34 people is available at the Centre.

You may book a bed through Edna Cowley, Toc H Centre, Port Penrhyn, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 4HN (Tel: 0248 351906).

Further information is available from Edna or from Timothy Day, 28 Llys Sychnant, Conwy, Gwynedd LL32 8RB (Tel: 0492 593197).

## An Invitation from Jane and Philip Douch

We are delighted to invite everyone who knows us to celebrate the arrival of our son Samuel Joshua Douch. We'd be pleased to see you at Cuddesdon House on Saturday 28 November.

If you would like to join us for a meal at 6 p.m. and/or stay overnight afterwards, please let us know. (Tel: 0364 73696). Otherwise come along between 7.30 and 10.30 p.m. for the party.

PS. Sam has already had lots of lovely presents. We would really prefer children's charities to have any other gifts. Please just bring yourself and something to drink!

## KENT DAY 1993

Saturday 12 June at Ashford Baptist Church Hall,  
Station Road, Ashford.

*Further details from:*  
Mrs F Marshall, 'Gaagrec', London Road, Sholden  
Deal, Kent CT14 0AD

## 1993 DIARIES

Slimline design in blue with a ribbon. Contains information about Toc H and regional, national and international Toc H addresses.

Available from Headquarters and on sale at Central Council.

Price £1 each.

## People in Groups

a weekend at Cuddesdon, 12-14 March 1993

Right across Toc H, people come together in groups. They meet in Branches, Groups, Friendship Circles, Projects, Cameos, Committees, Councils, Community Houses and so on. We are all very different, but when we come together in groups we often behave in ways that are a bit predictable, and that can sometimes give problems for those trying to lead the group. Those who come on this weekend will be 'the group' for the weekend and, with the help of the leaders, will be trying to spot what is going on in the group.

Applications to the Director, John Mitchell, at Headquarters, with cheque for £10, made payable to Toc H.

## Small Ads

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 10p a word (minimum £1) plus VAT, to *Point three Magazine*. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT.

## FALMOUTH TOC H HOLIDAY HOUSE

Accommodation for 5 plus cot.

Open all year. £70 per week.

Enquiries: Ron Gatiss - Tel: 0326 312 689